

# PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF TYRONE AND FERMANAGH

## Information for Lodge Almoners

Below is a list of the schemes supported by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council for which residents in the Council area may qualify. Awareness of what is available may assist Lodge Almoners in helping needy brethren claim the support to which they are entitled. Similar schemes are available in other Local Council Areas.

### 1. Energy Efficiency Schemes

#### 1.1 Affordable Warmth

- 100% grant for Owner Occupiers, 50% for Landlords.
- Criteria – Total annual household income must be under £20,000 gross.
- Local council completes initial eligibility check, Housing Executive complete technical survey.
- What is available? – Loft insulation; Wall insulation; Boiler Replacements; Installation of heating system if a central heating system is not already in place; Replacement of single glazed windows, in some cases.
- Criteria for boiler replacement – someone in the property must be over 65; on DLA; or under 16 and the boiler must be over 15 years or broken down beyond economic repair.
- More info at: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/affordable-warmth-grant-scheme#toc-0>

#### 1.2 Northern Ireland Sustainable Energy Programme (NISEP)

- Suitable for those not eligible for Affordable Warmth (i.e. over £20k).
- Offers loft and wall insulation; energy saving light bulbs; hot water cylinder jackets; fully funded (up to £3,700) natural gas heating system if on the gas network; oil system where gas is not available, in homes with no heating, economy 7 or solid fuel heating only.
- Must be homeowner or private tenant.

#### 1.3 Boiler Replacement Scheme

- Contribution grant for homeowners, with a boiler over 15 years old, and earning less than £40,000 gross.

- Partial grant only, through Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE).
- Tel: 03448 920 900
- More info at: [http://www.nihe.gov.uk/boiler\\_replacement\\_leaflet.pdf](http://www.nihe.gov.uk/boiler_replacement_leaflet.pdf)

## 2. **Home Accident Prevention**

- Free home safety checks are available through your local council for those under 5 years old or over 65 years old.
- Free equipment available – e.g. blind cord safety cleats; touch lamps; long shoehorns; carbon monoxide alarms; helping hands; fireguards.
- Keep Warm Packs are also available, offering thermal vests, socks and blankets.

## 3. **Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service**

- A Home Fire Safety Check is a visit to the home to provide advice on how to stay safe from fire.
- Each visit is carried out by at least two staff from Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS) who wear a NIFRS uniform and carry a photo ID.
- During the visit they will either fit a smoke alarm or show you how to test your existing smoke alarm, explain the potential fire risks in your home, provide fire safety advice and explain the importance of having a night time fire safety routine and a fire escape plan.

## 4. **Social Security Agency Benefit Check**

- Regardless of whether you live alone or with someone, own your own home or have savings; there could be benefits you are entitled to but not yet claiming.
- Make the call, speak to a local Benefit adviser on 0800 232 1271.

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council

Tel: 0300 303 1777

Email: [info@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:info@fermanaghomagh.com)

Ask for Environmental Health Services – Home Assessment Officer/ Home Safety Advisor